

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 remain in the application. Claims 1-32 stand rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee et al. (US 2002/0169788). As an initial matter, applicants note that Lee has a priority date of Feb. 16, 2000. Without conceding whether Lee is prior art, applicants nevertheless submit that it fails to anticipate the claimed invention.

The examiner contends that Lee teaches:

identifying a first node within the hierarchical data corresponding to a first column in the relational table and second node associated with the first node corresponding to data to be stored in a row of the table corresponding to the first column at paragraph 96; creating a record in a first buffer associated with the first relational table at paragraph 108; and copying the record from the first buffer to the first relational table at paragraph 110, lines 4-6.

Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that the examiner failed to show a *prima facie* case of anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

In order for a reference to apply under § 102 of the patent statute, every element of the claim must be found within the cited reference. In the subject application, the examiner has failed to show how Lee teaches every element of the claim. For example, the claim 1 recites "a first node within the hierarchical data corresponding to a first column in the relational table and second node associated with the first node corresponding to data to be stored in a row of the table corresponding to the first column." The examiner's analysis for these elements is "at paragraph 96." Yet paragraph 96 makes no mention of nodes or rows and columns of a table.

Moreover, claim 1 also recites "creating a record in a first buffer associated with the first relational table; and copying the record from the first buffer to the first relational table." The examiner maintains that these elements are taught by Lee "at paragraph 108" and "at a paragraph 110, lines 4-6." Yet a careful examination of those cited passages of Lee reveals no mention of record creation or buffers or copying from buffers to tables.

The relevance of this aspect of the claimed invention was described in the specification thusly:

The “shredding” process described above is an important aspect of the invention. This is the process by which XML input data is broken into records for multiple tables. The shredding process figures out when to generate a new record, how to fill in the fields for that record based on the XML data it sees, and determines when the record is “completed” so that it may be handed off to the server for insertion. The invention resolves the schema definition and the actual data stream to produce an actual set of records.

Specification, p. 12.

Similarly, Applicants submit that claim 14 recites in part:

mapping the hierarchical data based on the schema and creating records from the hierarchical data from nodes associated identified as data to be stored in the at least one column in each of the at least two relational tables; and streaming the records into the at least two relational tables.

The above limitations are not found in Lee. And claim 25 recites in part:

instructions for mapping the hierarchical data based on the schema and creating records from the hierarchical data from nodes associated identified as data to be stored in the at least one column in each of the at least two relational tables; and instructions for streaming the records into the at least two relational tables.

Applicants submit that Vuksan fails to teach all of the limitations of the claimed invention. For at least the above reasons, the applicants submit that the reference falls short of anticipation and request that the examiner reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of Lee.

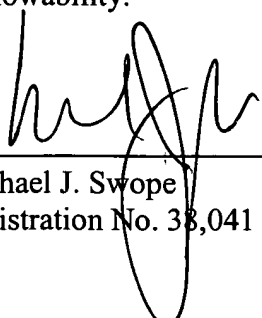
DOCKET NO.: MSFT-0766/191575.01
Application No.: 10/001,289
Office Action Dated: August 24, 2004

PATENT

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-32 and issuance of a Notice of Allowability.

Date: November 23, 2004



Michael J. Swope
Registration No. 38,041

Woodcock Washburn LLP
One Liberty Place - 46th Floor
Philadelphia PA 19103
Telephone: (215) 568-3100
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439